

REMARKS**Statement Regarding the Substance of an Examiner Interview**

Applicants' representative gratefully thanks the Examiner for his time during the telephonic Interviews conducted April 11 and May 1, 2007. As a result of the discussions, Applicants better understand the nature of the Examiner's rejection within the pending Office Action. The Examiner and Applicants' representatives discussed proposed claim language that embodies at least some of the distinctions of the claimed invention. Details of the conversation are included in the remarks below. The present application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, dated November 13, 2006, and the Interviews. Applicants are very grateful for Examiner Johns' willingness to suggest ways to overcome the rejections.

Response to the Office Action

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's statement that claims 3, 4/3 and 7 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 5 and 7 have been amended. Please note that Applicants have amended the claims, consistent with the comments and suggestions of the Examiner, to further clarify the claimed invention. Claim 7 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claims 1-7 remain pending in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original and other claims in this and other applications.

Claims 1, 2, 4/1, 4/2, 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tachikawa. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 5 recite an image recognition apparatus comprising "means for writing external dictionary data into a storage portion of a volatile memory." Claims 1

and 5 further recite that “[the] dictionary data is provided from an external source to [the] image recognition apparatus.”

The cited reference, Tachikawa, relates to a managing system for an image forming apparatus having a special-document discriminating function. Tachikawa, Abstract. In Tachikawa’s apparatus, however, the writing data is not written to a storage portion from an external source. Instead, in Tachikawa, the internal non-volatile memory provides the data to be written to the storage portion. Tachikawa at column 17, lines 17-20, 23-26, 27-29. In other words, the process of Tachikawa is completely internal. As agreed by the Examiner during the May 1st interview, this is different than the claimed invention; Tachikawa obtains its data from an internal source whereas the claimed invention receives its data from an external source, i.e., a CPU or driver software. Therefore, Tachikawa does not, and cannot, disclose or suggest an image recognition apparatus where “[the] dictionary data is provided from an external source to [the] image recognition apparatus,” as recited in claims 1 and 5. Furthermore, Tachikawa lacks the benefits and/or advantages of the claimed invention. Given the configuration of Tachikawa, there is a possibility for the data stored in the memory to be analyzed and/or changed. The claimed invention, on the other hand, has a configuration that includes no non-volatile memory and thus, no possibility for the data being analyzed and/or changed exists.

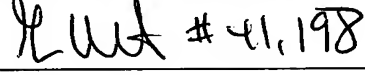
Consequently, Tachikawa fails to disclose or suggest all limitations of claims 1 and 5. Therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, claims 1 and 5 are allowable over Tachikawa. Claims 2, 4/1 and 4/2 depend from claim 1 and are allowable along with claim 1. Claim 6 depends from claim 5 and is allowable along with claim 5.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the § 102(b) rejection be withdrawn and claims 1, 2, 4/1, 4/2, 5 and 6 be allowed.

In view of the above, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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